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## BARRETT URGES FEDS TO STEP UP EFFORTS ON CLIMATE PROTECTION

MILWAUKEE – Mayor Tom Barrett joined more than 100 mayors from across the country at the U.S. Conference of Mayors' annual meeting today to launch an unprecedented campaign urging Congress to pass significant climate protection legislation and restore America's leadership in the battle to protect our climate.

The Mayors Climate Campaign 2007 is the first large-scale coordinated effort by mayors to take their growing global-warming fight to Capitol Hill. The mayors' campaign will focus on three major requests of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress:

- Establish a national cap on greenhouse gas emissions and a flexible market-based system of tradable allowances for emitting industries;
- Pass climate-friendly energy and transportation policies; Create funding and incentives to help cities in their effort to curb emissions
- Establish a national goal to cut emissions 80 percent by 2050.

The campaign includes 115 mayors, all of whom have signed the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement pledging to cut greenhouse gas emissions in their communities. Together, they represent more than 23 million Americans

"The winds have changed in Congress and the time to act is now," said Mayor Barrett, who in his Administration has directed such "green" initiatives as the City's first purchases of renewable energy and biodiesel fuel for fleet vehicles. "We have been leading by example in Milwaukee and now it's time for the feds to catch up by adopting responsible and impactful legislation to cut emissions and protect our environment."

Barrett/add one Climate 1/25/07

Mayor Barrett has joined more than 370 mayors from all 50 states plus the District of Columbia in signing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. The agreement pledges signatories to take actions to cut their emissions in line with the Kyoto Protocols and to press Congress for leadership. The Agreement has been unanimously endorsed by the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

For more information on the City's environmental sustainability efforts, click on <a href="https://www.milwaukee.gov/greenteam">www.milwaukee.gov/greenteam</a>

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